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Thursday, March 20,1997 | LSU in Shreveport | Volume 31, Number 8

SGA presidential race nears an end

Jennifer Ebarb
ALMAGEST

The SGA elections continue this week as two students, Franklin Price and Bridgette Wilder, run a close race for presidency.

Current SGA president Dana Foster said the position has several built-in jobs. Not only does the president represent the student body, but he or she also has to appoint people to committees such as the Faculty and Administrative Committee and the Athletic Council.

Foster said the president has to meet with the Chancellor often so they can keep each other informed on what is happening from the students' and faculty's perspective.

Foster said the president has to be a "people person." "You can't be scared of people. You have to be a leader and take the first step forward," Foster said.

Price said he was asked by a couple of key people to run for president of the SGA. He said he would like to keep it going in the direction that it is currently headed. "I would like to bring the school more together and get the students more involved," Price said.

Price would like to set up a multi cultural sensitivity program for both students and professors. This would teach both groups that people learn and communicate in a variety of ways and that treating everyone "equally" does not always mean treating them the "same."

He would also like to increase the satisfaction and retention of students.

Wilder decided to run for president because she feels she has experience as a student. "I have an idea of what students go through from going to school full-time to work."

Bridgette Wilder

Franklin Price

Having been actively involved in campus life, Wilder said that she sees things at different levels. "I've worked as a SOAR leader and as a student ambassador, so I know what each side is looking for."

Wilder believes that the Faculty Senate and SGA should work more closely together.

She said that the university should focus on the students that they have and wants to represent the wants of the students, not the faculty. "We have to do what's best for the majority," Wilder said. She says she understands that she can't always please everyone in making decisions.

Foster says that Wilder is enthusiastic and is willing to speak up with good ideas. Price likes to talk to people as well, according to Foster. Price has had three years of experience in the military, and has been involved with SGA for the past three semesters.

Foster says that either candidate would be good for the university. "They are both diplomatic and speak out," he said. Headed in different directions, Foster said that both ways are good for the university. "They both are quality people and will be quality leaders wherever they go."

The polls are open through Saturday. Price's ballot number is eleven and Wilder's is twelve.❀

Spaht receives distinguished teaching award

Mary Jimenez
ALMAGEST

The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) presented Dr. Carlos G. Spaht, II the 1997 Distinguished Teaching Award for College or University Teaching of Mathematics in Louisiana and Mississippi at its March 1 meeting in Jackson, Ms.

"I was extremely humbled and flattered," Spaht said. The announcement came as the last order of business for the two-day meeting and Spaht was completely surprised. Spaht was nominated by

Dr. Stuart Mills, provost and vice chancellor of Academic Affairs. Spaht is recognized for the dedication to his profession, students, and society during his 27- year teaching career at LSUS.

The MAA meeting also served as a student competition for all colleges and universities in the two-state area.

Julian Doucet, from the math department, organized the team of four students that participated: Agyei Gyasi, Bill Shively, Christina Puckett-Truman, and Davell McKay. The students did well, finishing in the middle of the 23 teams that entered. "I think we need to get involved in the MAA — I really feel strongly about that," Spaht said. The math department has only participated once before since Spaht came to LSUS in 1972. "...It's important for students to feel [as though they are] an integral part of the process."

His success at LSUS is evidenced in part by the popularity of his classes: "His conversational tone ... the way he can put things in common language, *so even the non-math major can understand*, and his sense of humor ... " makes his classes effective," said Gyasi, a senior math major.

There is also respect and admiration from his peers. Conway Link, associate professor of mathematics, who was at LSUS when Spaht arrived, and attended the recent MAA meeting, was not surprised with the announcement of the award: "He should have probably gotten it 10 or 15 years ago. Carlos has been an excellent teacher ever since I've known him — ever since he came here ... I can't imagine there being a better choice, one who cares more about students," Link said.

Spaht is also recognized for his work in the community. He developed a program that encourages and motivates students, at the

Continues on page 2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LSUS Civic Leadership Center, the LSUS Association of Criminal justice, and Lambda Sigma Upsilon sponsor a Juvenile Justice Forum. The juvenile justice experts on the panel include Judge Andrew Gallager, Dr. Eliot Knowles, Linda Clarke, Ticia Blanchard, Brian Barber, and Hugo Holland, assistant district attorney for Caddo Parish. The forum is held on Thursday, April 3, at 7 p.m. in LSUS Noel Memorial Library, third floor.

The SGA Bag-a-thon, to clean up a section of Shreveport highway, will begin @ 7 a.m., April 5, in the U.C. Mall. Those interested should contact Michael Scales @ 221-7441

The American Washington Semester is the first independent program for undergraduate and graduate students in the South. Students can earn six credit hours in the social sciences and humanities. The registration for the Washington Semester is on April 4, 9 - 10 a.m.

Continued from page 1.

middle school age, towards the college of sciences. It seeks to reach those students who may otherwise never see the inside of a university — minority, people with low incomes, and females. This program is called LaPrep and after three years of trying, Spaht succeeded in getting his first grant for the program in 1992. LaPrep is a tuition-free seven- week summer program which covers topics in several different sciences, and includes field trips, recreation, and college and career awareness. Spaht dreams of seeing this as a state-wide program. "It has been extremely rewarding," Spaht said.

Math Helpers Incorporated, a leadership program, is another way in which Spaht is helping students. It is a group of math students at LSUS working together with Lighthouse, an outreach program through Highland Baptist Church, to tutor younger students (middle and high school) in math.

Spaht's award makes him eligible for the 1998 National Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. This award is announced in August. ❀

Pederson gets Humanities grant

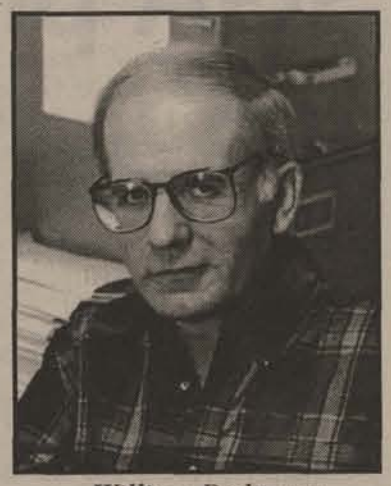
Rita Uotila
ALMAGEST

Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities awarded Dr. William D. Pederson, professor of political science, $25,000 grant for a four-week Summer Teacher Institute on the topic "First Couples in the White House: Presidents and Spouses."

Twenty secondary teachers will be eligible for a $500 fellowship and an optional tuition waiver for a three-hour graduate credit course.

Pederson will be directing the Institute with guest faculty which include Patricia T. Bates, Kenna Franklin, Charlene J. Handford, Nancy W. Hutson, Elaine T. King, Marguerite R. Plummer, Frank J. Williams, and Virginia Williams.

The participants will study how the role of the First Lady has changed over time and the precidency's both domestic and foreign effects. The Institute is a combination of lectures, discussions, and independent research. ❀



William Pederson

Giving the gift of poetry to masses

Jerry Scott
ALMAGEST

Poetic works by William Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson and Carl Sandburg will come to life with fire and fury when the performance group, **POETRY ALIVE,** comes to the stage of the University Center Theater at LSUS on April 3.

Poetry Alive is a touring poetry performance group based in Asheville, N. C. and is made up of five to seven teams that travel the United States and intersect at different points in different states.

The group brings the poetry that is painfully studied in English classes to life as they make the poetry a part of themselves by adding the language of the body with the feeling and emotion of the actor through poetic interpretation.

The group was founded in 1984 and since its establishment has produced and performed educational and entertainment performances for audiences that range from small kindergarten classes, in which they performed such favorites as "Little Orphan Annie" to adult audiences that call for more mature performances such as excerpts from Shakespeare and the poetry of Langston Hughes.

In the 1994-95 school year alone Poetry Alive conducted approximately 1,800 performances and 200 teacher's workshops for an estimated 550,000 students nationwide.

The group's success is its ability to blend their love of poetry with their ability to act in order to give a living *gift of poetry to the audience.*

One of their goals is to let the audience know that poetry does not just appear on a page, but that it must be lived and experienced in order to be written by the poet and must be performed in order for the reader to fully understand the work itself.

Poetry Alive is being brought to campus through the co-sponsorship of the LSUS English Club and the Student Organizations Council (SOC). The group will conduct three sessions as part of its campus tour. They will perform in the University Center Mall at 10:25 a.m. during the common hour, followed by an educational workshop at 3:15 p.m. The focus of the workshop is to show teachers how to bring poetry to life in the classroom for the benefit of the student. The poetry extravaganza will culminate in the University Center at 7:00 p.m. with a 45-minute performance of theatrical poetry. ❀

LSUS debaters receive national attention

Kirk Dickey
ALMAGEST

Four LSUS students qualified last weekend for national debate competitions. The debate coach said the whole team is doing well.

Jimmy Rubio, junior, and Brandi Jones, freshman, qualified for the persuasive speaking category at the Interstate Oratory Competition during a weekend debate tournament at McNeese University. Rubio took first place at the competition with a speech about home AIDS testing. Jones won second place with a speech about expanding sex offender laws.

Rubio, Emily Mullins and Jennifer Edwards, both seniors, also qualified for the National Speaking Events Tournament during the McNeese competition.

According to debate team coach Mary Jarzabek, the Interstate Oratory Competition is one of the oldest in the United States. Jarzabek said that Rubio has already been to national competitions three times. This will be Jones' first.

Jones started debating only a semester ago. Jarzabek said that she just saw a lot of potential in her. Jones, who had never been in debate before, said she got involved because of Jarzabek. "Georgie (Jarzabek's nickname) is persuasive," Jones said.

"It's been a great experience," Jones said. "It's been a good chance to meet people."

Jarzabek said that the rest of the McNeese competition went well. LSUS took second place overall. The debate team took honors in parliamentary debate and dramatic interpretation as well as others.

"I am terribly proud of the members of the debate team," Jarzabek said. "It's nice to see them get some national attention." ❀

Feature

Cajun cafe offers the finest in culinary art

Mary Jimenez
ALMAGEST

"I'm Mel Davis, a Louisiana culinarian ... " and a big inviting smile, has gotten Marilyn Davis, of **Mel's Cajun Cafe** located in the University Center, into many different restaurant kitchens: French, Greek, Polynesian, seafood, and of course Cajun.

It was one year ago in January that James and Marilyn Davis, owners of Mel's Catering were informed that their bid had been accepted and she walked into the University Center.

Mel's offers a variety of hot and cold items for breakfast and afternoon meals and highlights a special every day that features her home cooking. Here are a few:

•**baked chicken (aka Henrietta's cousins)** , cajun rice, sweet peas, roll.
•**lasagna**, Italian green beans, garlic bread.
•**Cajun fried catfish filets**, hushpuppies, slaw, fries.
•**chicken jambalaya**, greens, roll.

The price of the special varies, but is never more than $3.95. Mel updates her a menu every week.

What are students looking for in a university cafeteria? "Free," said Mel laughing. That's probably why her servings are ample. "We do a little bit more than regulation ... for the kids, they eat more." Mel often takes the suggestions from faculty or students to change or add to the menu. When a running group arrived consistently at 7 a.m., Mel changed her hours from the previous 7:30 a.m. opening. Students and faculty requested a "quick" menu so Mel now places muffins, pastries, bagels, and fruit, on the counter to grab and go.

To meet the needs of those desiring heart-smart foods, Mel has a lighter side: vegetable stir fry, turkey burger, grilled fish and chicken sandwiches, and wheat breads.

Mel's day does not start at 7 a.m. or end at 3 p.m. . Mel arrives between 5 a.m. and 5:30 a.m. to unload the previous day's shopping and start preparing the menu. Rest of her crew arrives at 6 a.m.. At 3 p.m. she leaves to shop for the next day or head to the family's commercial kitchen on Greenwood road for a catering job.

Much of Mel's training was self-motivated and started 23 years ago when she educated herself in food and cooking techniques to lower her husbands high-blood pressure — which she accomplished successfully. For all four of her children: Jason, 19; Joshua, 17; Melanie, 15, and Monica, 11 — Mel ground, strained, and prepared baby-food from fresh vegetables and fruit. Over the years of cooking and reading, Mel gave herself a solid base in culinary knowledge, but she had not even considered doing it professionally.

It was during a conversation with a chef while on vacation in 1983 that she realized her aptitude for cooking. Travel over the years: California, Florida, Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana, meant Mel would be in a kitchen — absorbing skills, while her family vacationed.

Mel was encouraged by a meeting with Chef Paul Prudhomme of New Orleans to enter the Culinary Chef Institute in Baton Rouge. She further educated herself by taking courses in Dallas, and at Bossier Community College. Mel and James were both employed at South Central Bell when they decided to open a catering business.

Mel was invited to be a chef at Louisiana Downs, but they wanted to pay her $10,000 less than another job offered. Not without a lot of tears, Mel knew she had to turn them down. James encouraged Mel to quite her South Central Bell job and open up Mel's Catering.

Business was slow in the beginning, but then they got the dining hall at Southern University, and the catering business looked encouraging when James left his job to join Mel full-time. James manages the Southern University cafeteria, and Mel the LSUS cafeteria, but catering is still the largest part of their business.

The Davis family is unique. They help each other, they smile, they eat meals together, and they go to church together. Mel has four teenagers and she can't complain about any of them. In fact, she has only praise — her eldest, Jason, is the vice-president of their corporation and is involved in a career clinic for middle school.

Joshua is being recognized nationally for academics, athletics, school and community involvement. Her two younger girls are there to help whenever she needs it. Her mother, Margaret Hall (aka Tuffy), is often at Mel's side helping as well. Mel said, "with kids, you have to be an example." She added, "kids are smart, they'll see through you if you're telling them one thing and you're doing another."

Mel hopes to open a family sit-down restaurant offering home-cooked meals. Her long-term dream is to open a culinary school of her own. Mel's Catering handles many of the events held on campus.❀

SPORTS

Pilot athletics' news and notes

Brian Allen
ALMAGEST

Basketball- In a development that shocked absolutely no one, the LSUS Pilots' Larry Hall was named the Big State Conference's MVP last week, in addition to being named to the All - Conference Team.

Hall finished his sophomore season as the NAIA's leading scorer with 29.2 points and his 13.1 rebounds was third in the nation. Not bad for a player who was cast aside by larger institutions due to an eye injury. His story continues to inspire and his play continues to rise to the next level. Honorable mentions went to Phillip August and Davetrick Laird for their contributions this season.

The Lady Pilots also represented LSUS well, as Erin Digilormo made first team All - Conference as well. Digilormo is also a sophomore, and her 16.5 points and 7.5 made her a shoo-in for All-Conference honors. Digilormo also serves as co-captain of the understaffed and often outgunned Lady Pilots, who despite losing their first dozen games came down to the final game of the season before being eliminated from playoff contention with a loss at Jarvis Christian College. Honorable mentions went to Tren Reed, also co-captain, and Holly Lueth.

Baseball- The LSUS Pilots shocked the local baseball community with an upset win over Centenary(4-13). It was a scene out of a baseball movie as Mike Hickok's sacrifice fly ended the 11 inning marathon by giving LSUS a 6-5 win. The win was the team's first over an NCAA Division I opponent, and snapped a four-game losing streak. A little bit of rust set in as Mother Nature rained out two weeks' worth of games, but the Pilots are now back on the winning track and have the program's biggest win of the season to hang their hopes on. The Pilots lifted their record to 3-6, and play again (weather permitting, after all, it's raining while I'm writing this) today at 2:30 p.m. against conference rival Southwest Adventist.❀

the ALMAGEST
to keep the campus informed

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Academics first

Rita Uotila
COLUMNIST

It is time to take action on the athletic fee issue. The SGA elections are on, and if students don't 'punch' in their opinions now, the minority might become the majority.

No one is rebuting the fact that the atletics program needs money. Who wouldn't at LSUS? However, we should get the priorities straight. We are still an university, aren't we? When there is screaming need for academic stuff like books and journals to be bought, and programs to be saved, we shouldn't be thinking about the few who bounce the ball around the court. I don't have anything against a sports program AFTER the academic needs of this university have been satisfied, and every kid has a place to stay while their moms attend classes.

Too often when professors give out term paper topics they see students' panicky faces; "What current primary sources?" More often than not, if professors aren't flat out urging their students to go to Centenary's library, they at least include the hours on their syllabus. This is embarrasing. Especially now (remember that declaration of war Centenary announced against us,) it's degrading to sneak into the rival's camp for crumbs of information — a quick peak into the books. I'd be happy to give my $30 for purchasing books and journals, or to pay a student worker to keep our pretty building open later.

I was one of those ignorant students who though that my $10 was going for my possible use of the HPE building. There was a time when the building was open for students for recreational use. Like many others, I was using the facility to play raquet ball with friends and visited the gym. When the hours got cut, I wasn't too upset to join a gym elsewhere because $10 wasn't worth fussing about.

My thoughts on the $10 have changed since, and especially now that we're talking about $30. Last semester when I was having a training session with friends, and students of LSUS, at the sand volleyball court on a Saturday afternoon the practice was a success until a bunch of us got thirsty and needed to use the bathroom. To our dismay we wern't able to get into the HPE building even though it was open. The student worker had stuck his desk on a door way blocking the entrence to the building. He was polite about the fact that we couldn't enter the building for a drop of water or use the restrooms. As natural born snoopies we wanted to know why then was he spending his Saturday afternoon stuck in the doorway. It turned out some outside activities where going on and he was paid to be the watchdog, indeed we saw people flow in and out of the establishment, but as students we weren't allowed to go and relieve our needs. Fair for students who pay tuition and $10 atletic fee (back then I still though I paid to use the establishment)? I don't think so.

I'm aware that we have some good and promising talents and I'm sure their future is bright on other teams and maybe professionally, but to support the athletic fee at a time of financial crisis, and a war, seems ludicurous since, after all, a small percentage of the student body would benefit from it.

I would rather see the possible $150,000 generated from the athletic fee increase used to buy books to the library, get the Noel Collection documented, build a day care facility for students with kids, or plain and simply, for a change for my extra $20, a real meal between popcorn and pasta.

Basketball or tiddly-winks; you decide

Brian Allen
COLUMNIST

The signpost up ahead warns that a turning point is fast approaching, and LSUS students might do well to observe. SGA election time is near, and controversy runs rampant as the athletic fee garners the most attention LSUS has had since Edwin Edwards showed up to dedicate the spiffy new library.

If nothing else comes of this, it's been refreshing to hear some debate about a campus issue other than where folks would like to eat after their 11 a.m. class lets out. Local media has been keeping a watchful eye, not unlike when the tuition increase went into effect a few years back. (Funny, I don't recall being asked to vote on that one) They probably hope there'll be a rebellion of some sort, complete with trashcans being hurled through windows a la Spike Lee's "Do The Right Thing." I should mention at this point that this column isn't meant to persuade you one way or the other as to how you should vote. If I truly felt my written words could sway people to take action they would otherwise be opposed to, I would be busily filling up Tyra Banks' mailbox with well-crafted proposals of marriage.

What I do hope is that all these passionate people work their way to the polls this week, regardless of how they stand on the issues. Another reason I won't hammer my opinion down on anyone is that opinions can be viewed much in the way young siblings view bedrooms: Sharing them is never as satisfying as having your own. And after all, is there anyone on campus who doesn't know how the long-time sports reporter feels about the possible elimination of most of our athletic program? I have a hard enough time dealing with guys who swear up and down that the intramural Magic Card Tournament deserves a three-page layout and if that interferes with coverage of three or four basketball games, then so be it. Can you imagine what would happen if there were no basketball or baseball? I don't know about you, but I'm not looking forward to writing full page spreads on croquet anymore than you're looking forward to reading them.

And overshadowed in the midst of all this are the elections for SGA offices, the level of apathy toward which never ceases to amaze me. Are you, perchance, aware of just how much of your money the SGA will determine the fate of? Are you aware that the SGA President gets full paid tuition? Care to guess who pays for that? The same people who are raising an uproar about the fee increase are quick to say they don't care about the outcome of any of the other races. Call me crazy, but if I'm paying someone's salary I'd at least like to know whether or not this person is in any way, shape, form, or fashion qualified to hold the position. So as long as you're already on the phone, take time to vote in a couple of the other categories. If you don't vote, you can't complain. Well, you can, but don't expect anyone to listen. (Unless the alternative is delving into an exciting diatribe on tiddly-winks adorning the Almagest sports page.)

Letter to the Editor in defense of campus cops

I am sick and tired of all the bad press that LSUS Campus Security is receiving lately. It seems that the students on this campus seem to complain about everything, but when it comes right down to it, they really don't have a clue.

There have only been three "crimes" reported to LSUS Security this year. One of those was considered of a violent nature. That being the incident when the young man was "assaulted" at University Court Apartments. I lived at U.C. A. For two years. The way that incident was handled was not due to the procedures of our Campus Cops, but the policy of U.C. A. Management. If you gave a complaint about the way they handle security, complain to U.C.A. Management. They are the ones that put LSUS into a catch twenty-two situation.

As for the rest of the whiners on campus — you say that you can't find an officer when you need one? Well, what do you do when you need one at home? Do you just look around your yard? Most people call on the telephone. What? You say you don't know how to reach the Campus police by phone? Whose fault is that? Not Campus Security's! Just for the record, their office number is 797-5082, and if you can't reach them there, they are probably doing their job, which means patrolling the campus. But you know what, you can still reach them if you need to by calling their cell phone at 455-5497.

That brings us to a whole new concept. How can we call security if we have a problem? If all the buildings on campus are locked up, then the nearest phone is across the street at the Circle K. Sounds like a problem for Administration. Maybe if they installed phones on the outside of each building, that would solve that problem.

Three crimes reported in one school year! How many do you want? That's not a lot. It could be a lot worse. You people should be thankful that we do not have the problems that other college campuses have. There have been no rapes or murders at LSUS. That's our officers preventing crime.

One thing for you "insecure" types to remember, just because you don't see the police, that doesn't mean they don't see you. I have had to work late many nights, here at LSUS, only to find out the following day, that our officers knew my every move. Just rest assured that they were trained to do their job. They have all the qualifications that any police officer may need, and then some. I think all of our officers deserve a big "thank you" for a job well done. So if you still do not feel safe, GO TO THERAPY!

Cheryl Smith

Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study.

Letters should be submitted to ***The Almagest*** office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest reserves the right to edit letters.

MEET YOUR TEACHER

Mary Jimenez
ALMAGEST

Maxie Foster — Assistant Professor of Health and Physical Education
M.Ed. University of Georgia
Currently teaching: arch-golf-bowling, first aid, personal and community health problems, methods of teaching secondary school physical education.
Favorite Music: Jazz
Favorite Basketball Team: Bulls
Favorite Football Teams: New Orleans, Dallas, Miami Dolphins — mainly a fan of former Coach Shula

Maxie Foster

"Don't let the dean be your only evaluation — evaluate yourself," says Foster to all his classes. Foster feels students get too hooked on getting a grade and forget "... that education is not just where you come to ... it's a process."

Foster came to LSUS in 1982 after teaching at a junior college in his home town, Athens, Ga., and was here the first year the Health-Physical Education building was open. One of the things that attracted Foster to LSUS was that he would be in on the building of a program, which was where he was at in his own life at the time — venturing out for the first time. He was able to make the degree program what it is, and can appreciate how it has changed.

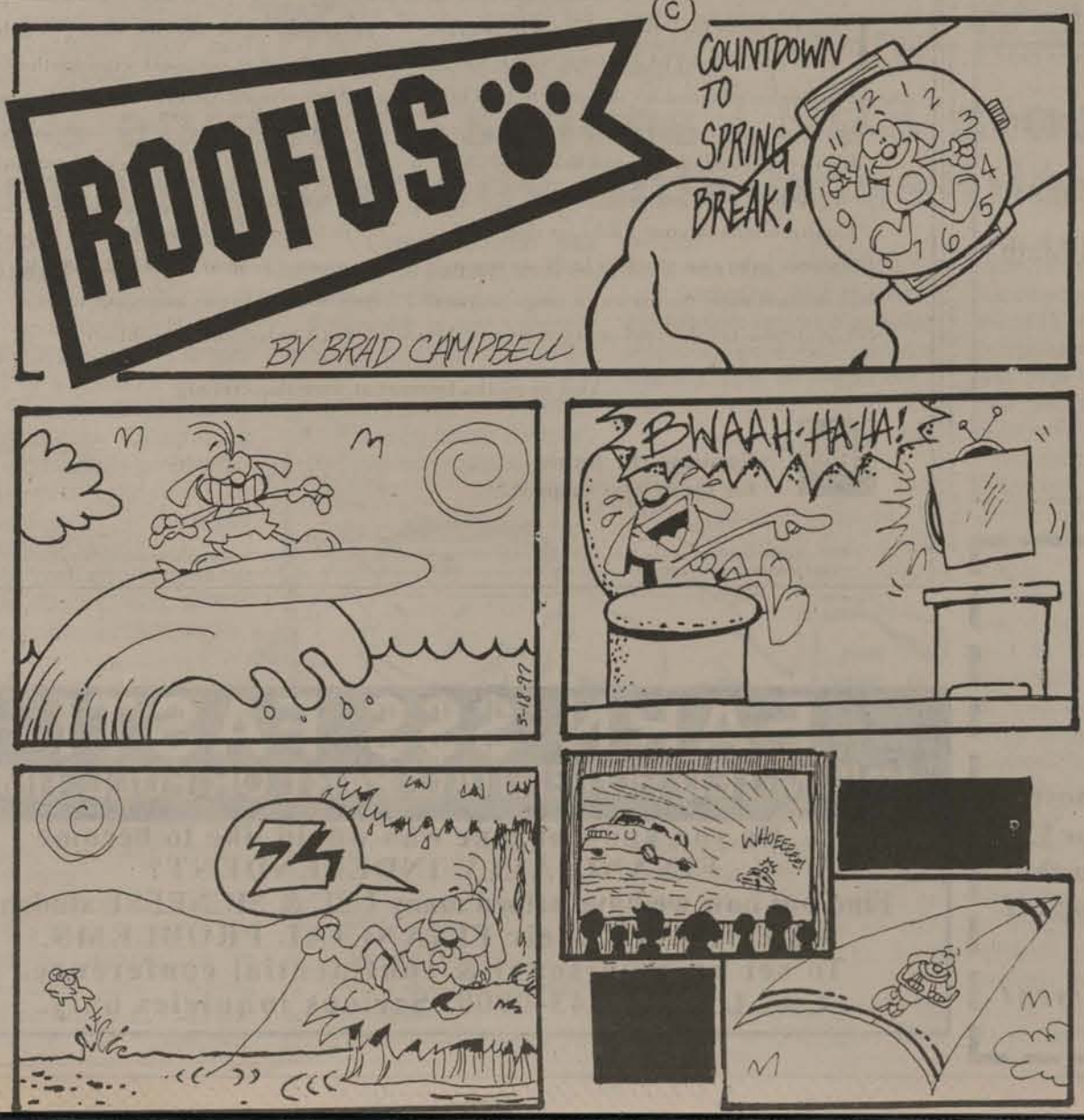
One of the classes Foster enjoys most is the personal and community health problems class. It allows students to explore themselves as they fit in society and covers several needed areas of concern for young adults: relationships, proper nutrition, and personal health.

Foster makes it clear at the beginning of the semester that every student is equal. In addition to covering text material, he remembers why he's here and asks, "Are you getting it?" He tries to answer questions he thinks the students would want to ask, and feels strongly about making sure he's not just following a syllabus. He says there is teaching and "touching," and that teachers should not forget to touch. "I don't come to work not wanting to be here ... I want to deal with my students, have them ask questions," said Foster.

On his office walls are numerous certificates, awards, and letters of appreciation for participation in youth and young adult activities. "As often as possible I do things with young people," Foster said. He feels there is a need for young people to know there is someone they can go to — to see that someone cares about them. He does things such as self-esteem workshops at church, or participates in black history programs for schools. Foster feels black history is important , but, "what's more important is... not a black person ...., " but for the children to see a man (who happens to be black) who is sharing and giving of his time. Foster has no children and is not married. He is often asked, *Why do you care?* His answer is: "There's a need for it. And, I feel, I need to give back too. You have to find time to do that."

Foster is a spiritual man, and opens himself to differences in others. He would like to see more involvement between LSUS and Southern University. He is disheartened by the missed opportunities in social experience and government funding for collaborative efforts between the universities.

"You can't grow if you're going to shield everybody else out," Foster said.



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Education Majors
The NSF Teaching Scholars Program is offering Full Tuition Scholarships to Mathematics and Science Education Majors or Elementary Education Majors wanting to teach Middle School Math or Science.
Deadline for Applications is April 18
Contact Dr. Judith Covington at 797-5354
Members of underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply

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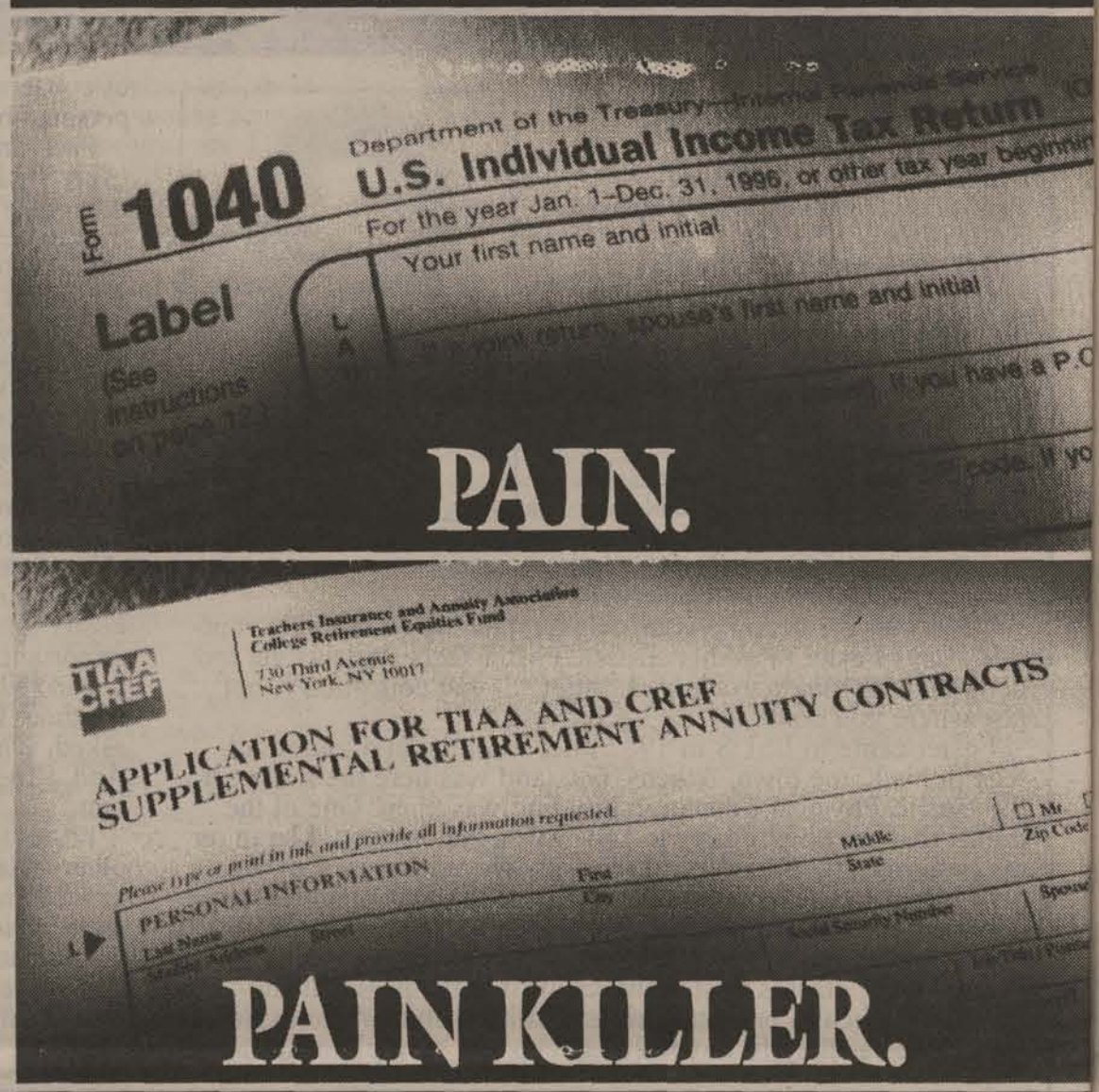
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the ALMAJOKE

Tuesday, April 1, 1997 | LSU in Shreveport | Volume 31, Number 8 1/2

SGA presidential election void; Foster declares dictatorship

Dirk Kidney
ALMAJOKE

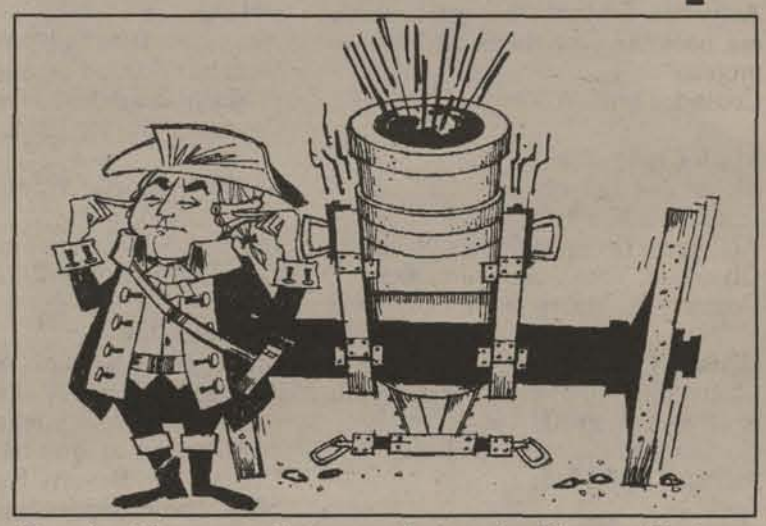
In a move that stunned the entire SGA, Dana Foster, the SGA president, has proclaimed the current elections void and has declared a dictatorship in student government.

Foster, citing his contempt for the democratic way, announced his new government at the Tuesday meeting of the SGA. "All of this debating on what we should and shouldn't do has just got to stop," Foster said. "I want it my way! MINE, MINE, MINE!" When presidential candidates Franklin Price and Bridgette Wilder objected, they were immediately thrown into a broom closet by Michael Scales, assistant of war (he doesn't like to be called a secretary) and made to listen to John Tesh's new album for three straight hours.

With the competition out of the way, Foster announced the rest of his cabinet. Campus Police Chief Ron Parker will now be known as High Justice Parker. Mel, of Mel's Cajun Cafe, will now be known as High Culinary Officer. Henrietta the chicken will be known as High Chicken Priestess and will be the symbol for the government. The rest of his supporters in SGA will just be High.

Foster, who was expected to resign the presidency when he graduated, said that LSUS is in need of so much change that he has put in for more college loans to start a degree in World Domination 101 taught by Dr. Morgoth, the Centenary professor who declared war on LSUS earlier in the semester (Morgoth later defected because he figured that he could get more money by coming here and proposing fee raises).

If the loans do not come through, Foster plans a hostile takeover of the Almagest and seize its funds. "They don't really serve a purpose on this campus anyway" Foster said.☺



Drunk with power, Foster took over the Pioneer Heritage Center dressed as George Washington, where he proceeded to fire upon anyone making an attempt to reason with him. Unfortunately, the High Chicken Priestess, long time LSUS consultant, was decapitated by the angry general.

PMS epidemic strikes LSUS students; removing periods only possible cure

Mary Jimenez
ALMAJOKE

All graduating English majors will be required to participate in a behavior modification program developed by the Psychology Department for an increasingly problematic disorder known as Punctuation Madness Syndrome (PMS).

PMS typically occurs in English majors, and shows predominantly in their senior year.

Hank Stern, a journalism major, noticed the problem in his English major girl-friend Emily White. "She couldn't read my stuff. She just kept telling me how many commas were missing."

The modification program follows a study done by the Psychology department in which they gave English majors an article to read and tested them for comprehension. Comprehension was below the 50 percent level on all who were tested.

Following is one example — which was typical from the study:

Q: What was the story about?

A: Six misplaced commas, five run-on sentences, three improper uses of quotes..

Q: Those are punctuation errors. Can you tell me the main theme of the article?

A: Well, it is obviously about bad journalism.

Q: Is there anything else you noticed?

A: It was trite.

It was clear that several of the English majors had gotten so preoccupied with punctuation that they no longer could read anything in print for content. John Thoreau, a recovering PMS student, admits: "It got so bad I couldn't even make it past page one of the newspaper. I even started making corrections and sending it to the editor. I'm working through my problems. I can now read newspapers, but I still can't get through a magazine — they have enough time to do it right."

Two approaches to the behavior modification have been discussed. (1) A complete cold-turkey removal of punctuation. Subjects will be asked to read material with no punctuation at all over and over — until they can show comprehension of the material. (2) Punctuation will be gradually taken out, and a test for comprehension will be made at various stages.

Success for the two procedures will be tested by the ability of the subjects to read *the Almagest*, and clips from *People Magazine* without having to correct for punctuation errors.

After talking to White about the program, she said, "I admit, I feel ready to put down my red pen."

Students who wish to get help voluntarily may pick up a release form in the Psychology Department.☺

CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

Japanese Cultural Society
Meets:2nd and 4th Tues of each month
Activities: demonstrations, discussions
Contact: Emi Wamsley, 861-7482, BH238, BH240.

Accounting Club
Meets: 3rd Wed. of each month, noon, BE216.
Activities: Speakers, Networking, Scholarships, Volunteer Tax Assistance, Campus Activities
Contact: Accounting dept., college of business.

Louisiana Association of Educators
Meets: 3rd Thurs. of each month
Activities: Student teacher tea, speakers, bookfair, workshops, and service projects.
Contact: Denise Wilson, 742-6423

Math Club
Meets: 2nd and 4th Tues. Of each month, 10:30 a.m., BH 421
Activities: Group activities, Science Olympiad, Viro-Wars Tournament
Contact: Dr. Mabry or Dr. Covington.

History Club
Meets: First Thursday of each month, at 10:30 a.m. in BH 446.
Contact: Dr. Finley or Michael Modica , 747-4736.

Chemistry Club
Meets: 1st Thurs.of each month
Activities: group
Contact: Dr. Gustavson, 797-5091.

MBA Association
Meets: Once a month
Activities: seminars with guest speakers on career planning and resume writing, social activities
Contact: Director of Graduate Studies, College of Business.

Rotorac
Meets: Two meetings per month
Activities: Students service organization, one service project per semester, luncheons.
Contact: Dr. Paul Merkle, 797-5240

Drama Club
Meets: Tues., Thurs., 10:30 a.m., BH330
Activities: Dramatic production, first hand information on auditions in local productions, volunteer work
Contact: Jorgi Jarzabek, 797-5228

Sociology/Social Work Club
Meets: BH361
Contact: Ms. Kenna Franklin or David O'Neal, 424-7332

Biology Club
Meets: twice a month, SC 228.
Activities: Social events, carreer seminars, fundraisers, community and campus service projects.
Contact: Dr. Beverly Burden, 797-5088, bbrden@pilot.lsus.edu.

Campus Ministry
Meets: 1st and 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., UC Pilots Room.
Activities: devotionals, programs, service projects.
Contact: Toni Bishop, 798-8837
Betsy Eaves, 869-5024.

Catholic Student Union
Meets: Twice a month
Activities: Community service, social events, fundraisers.
Contact: Joseph Holubek 868-6104.

Student Government Association
Meets: Every Tues. 1 p.m., DeSoto. Open to everyone.
Contact: Michael Scales, 221-7441.

Psychology Club
Meets: 1st and 3rd Thurs. Monthly, 10:30, BE342
Activities: Community service, social events, speakers, fundraisers.
Contact: Brenda Alexander, 933-5734.

Public Relations Student Society of America
Meets: Monthly, Thurs., 10:30a.m.
Activities: Volunteer work, contact with PRSA, seminars, speakers, workshops.
Contact: Kathy Smith, 798-0049.

SPJ-LSUS Society of Professional Journalists
Meets: TBA
Activities: guest speakers on topics of the field related to journalism, socials Contact: Rita Uotila, 687-3608.

Health and Physical Ed. Club
Meets: Tues, Thurs. 10:30 a.m.
Activities: Almost Anything Goes for LSUS, judge field days for elementary schools.
Contact: Macie Foster, 797-7294.

ACJS/Lambda Alpha Epsilon
Meets: 1st and 3rd Tue of each mo.
Activities: Various community activities, speakers on law enforcement ops.
Contact: Dr. Bernadette Palombo 797-5343, or Richard Georgia 797-5078.

English Club
Meets: 3rd Thurs.of each month.
Activities: Booksale, guest speakers, social activities.
Contact: Dr. Thomas Dubose, BH 251, or Patty Lenox, 869-3251.

International Club
Meets: 3rd Thurs.of each month, 10:30 a.m., in BH242 (Foreign Language Multimedia Lab)
Activities: Guest speakers, films, travel and foreign exchange information, International Food Festival, community service.
Contact: Lynn Walford, 797-5256, lwalford@pilot.lsus.edu

Louisiana State University in Shreveport Student Government Association 1997 Elections March 17-22 BALLOT

Call 798-LSUS and choose option #3 to vote

President: (vote for one)

#11 Franklin Price
#12 Bridgette Wilder

Vice President: (vote for one)

#21 Michael Modica

Senator; College of Business: (vote for one)

#31 Liesl Boniol

Senator; College of Education: (vote for one)

#41 April Beaird
#42 Segalit Rivera

Senator; College of Liberal Arts: (vote for one)

#51 Ted McCastlain

Senator; College of Science: (vote for one)

#61 Regina Cox
#62 Brian Craft
#63 Joseph Holoubek

Referendum:
Do you support a proposed increase of the current Athletic Fee from $10.00 to $30.00 per semester, not to include the summer semester?

#71 Support
#72 Reject

CAMPUS CALENDAR

March 20 — LSUS Minority Affairs Lecture @ 6:30 p.m. in the UC Theather.

March 19-20 — Blood drive, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the U.C. Lobby

March 19-20 — Spring Fling from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

March 22 — Easter egg hunt in the U.C. Mall starting at 10 a.m.

March 24-30 — SPRING BREAK

March 27 — Interviewing workshop in the U.C., 10:30 a.m.

April 1 — Telephone registration begins

April 2 — Last day to drop classes or resign

April 8 — Chancellor's Coffee in the Louisiana A&B room, U.C., at 10:30 a.m.